



03500.017134

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
HIDEHISA MAKITA, ET AL. )  
Application No.: 10/658,387 )  
Filed: September 10, 2003 )  
For: SOLAR CELL )  
MODULE-MOUNTING )  
STRUCTURE AND SOLAR )  
CELL MODULE ARRAY : December 15, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of Reference (4) is enclosed.

- (1) U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0008143
- (2) U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0195138
- (3) U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0000566
- (4) Japan 5-57857

Reference (4) was discussed at page 2 to 3 of the specification and might be deemed pertinent for the reasons given there. An English-language abstract for reference (4) is also enclosed.

No copies of the cited U.S. Patents are being provided, in accordance with the Pre-Official Gazette Notice dated July 11, 2003, entitled "Information Disclosure Statements Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003."

Inasmuch as the subject application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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FORM PTO 1449 ( <i>modified</i> )  *U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)		ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.017134.		APPLICATION NO. 10/658,387			
		APPLICANT HIDEHISA MAKITA, ET AL.					
		FILING DATE September 10, 2003		GROUP NYA			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		2001/0008143	09/19/01	Sasaoka et al.	136	244	
		2002/0195138	12/26/02	Itoyama et al.	136	251	
		2003/0000566	01/02/03	Matsushita et al.	136	244	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		5-27857	03/09/931	Japan			<b>Abstract</b>
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1